

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BERLIN 00859 171631 Z

43

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 IO-12

ACDA-19 SAJ-01 OMB-01 MBFR-03 RSR-01 /129 W

----- 091450

R 171550 Z MAY 73

FM USMISSION BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1825

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

CINCEUR FOR POLAD & OPS

CINCUSAREUR FOR POLAD, OPS AND AEAGG- OCO

CINCUSAFE FOR POLAD & OPS

USELMLO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 0859

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, MOPS, WB, US, UR

SUBJECT: CHANGE IN DUTY TRAIN PROCEDURES DUE TO REPAIR WORK

1. IN EARLY MAY, CHIEF SERB MENTIONED INFORMALLY TO CHIEF USMLM THAT CONSTRUCTION WORK IN THE POTSDAM AREA WOULD NECESSITATE SOME REROUTING OF U. S. DUTY TRAINS FOR UNSPECIFIED PERIOD LATER IN MONTH. HE IMPLIED THAT DETAILS WOULD BE PROVIDED LATER BUT NOTHING FURTHER WAS HEARD FROM SOVIETS.

2. ON EVENING MAY 16, BOTH OUTBOUND U. S. TRAINS WERE STOPPED AT GRIEBNITZEE STATION WHERE DETACHMENT AND INSPECTION OF ENGINES NORMALLY PERFORMED AT POSDAM TOOK PLACE. SOVIET SOLDIERS NORMALLY PRESENT AT POTSDAM WERE ON THE SCENE. WHEN TRAIN REACHED POTSDAM THEY WERE PLACED ON TRACK NEXT TO PLATFORM RATHER THAN ON USUAL FENCED- OFF TRANC, WHICH WAS NOTED TO BE UNDER REPAIR. EAST GERMAN CONDUCTORS BOARDED TRAIN AS USUAL AT POTSDAM AND U. S. MP' S PERFORMED THEIR NORMAL INSPECTION OF TRAIN. NO SOVIET PERSONNEL WERE

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PAGE 02 BERLIN 00859 171631 Z

PRESENT IN POTSDAM. CONDUCTOR EXPLAINED CHANGE
NECESSITATED BY REPAIRS AND NEW PROCEDURE WOULD BE IN
EFFECT THROUGH MAY 22. COMMANDER OF BREMERHAVEN TRAIN
PROTESTED CHANGE TO SOVIET DUTY OFFICER UPON REACHING
MARIENBOR, INBOUND TRAINS ALSO STOPPED AT GRIENBNITZEE.

3. ALTHOUGH SOVIETS SHOULD HAVE DISCUSSED DETAILS OF
NEW PROCEDURES WITH US IN ADVANCE, IT IS BASICALLY
IMMATERIAL TO US WHETHER THE INSPECTION OF ENGINE IS
PERFORMED AT GRIEBNITZEE OR POTSDAM AND THE CHANGE DID
NOT RESULT IN ANY DELAY OF TRAINS. WE DO NOT PLAN TO
REGISTER ANY OBJECTION TO NEW PROCEDURES AND WILL
COOPERATE BY PERFORMING OUR EXTERNAL INSPECTION OF TRAINS
AT GRIEBNITZEE RATHER THAN POTSDAM.

4. USCOB CONCURS. KLEIN

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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